



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 6/27/2005

GAIN Report Number: E35121

EU-25

Organic Products

Prolongation of the derogation for imports of organic products to the EU

2005

Approved by:

Norval E. Francis, Jr.

U.S. Mission to the EU

Prepared by:

Karin Bendz

Report Highlights:

The European Commission has proposed a prolongation of the derogation for imports of organic products to the EU. US organic exports would be covered by this prolongation.

The proposal has been agreed on in the Special Committee on Agriculture and is currently awaiting the opinion of the European Parliament before it can be voted in a Council meeting.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Brussels USEU [BE2]
[E3]

Prolongation of the derogation on imports of organic products proposed.

The European Commission has made a proposal for a council regulation to amend regulation 2092/91 (organic farming).

In article 11(6) of Regulation 2092/91 it says that competent authorities of the Member States (MS) can grant authorization to market products imported from third countries not included on the EU's list of "equivalent" third countries. US organic exports to the EU are covered by this import authorization system.

In the European Organic Action Plan, the Commission announced that it would propose that these current derogations for third country imports would be replaced by a new permanent system.

To develop and establish this new permanent system, sufficient time is needed. In the meantime, to avoid trade disruptions the Commission proposes that the existing measures that end 31 December 2005 should instead end 31 December 2006.

The Commission proposal was agreed upon in SCA (Special Committee on Agriculture) on June 6. The Commission is now waiting for the opinion of the European Parliament and after that the proposal can be voted in a Council meeting.

Visit our website: our website www.useu.be/agri/usda.html provides a broad range of useful information on EU import rules and food laws and allows easy access to USEU reports, trade information and other practical information.
E-mail: AgUSEUBrussels@usda.gov

Related reports from USEU Brussels:

Report Number	Title	Date Released
E35075	Is the CAP reform a boost for organic production?	04/21/05
E34099	Possible changes in EU-legislation for organic farming	12/08/04
E34075	European Council adopts Organic Action Plan	10/19/04
E34025	European Action plan for Organic Food & Farming	06/21/04
These reports can be accessed through our website www.useu.be/agri or through the FAS website http://www.fas.usda.gov/scriptsw/attacherep/default.asp .		